

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 257884

61

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 257884

WHITE HOUSE PASS SAM 86970 TOSEC 275

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 5642 ACTION SECSTATE DATED 21 NOV 74

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5642

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, NL

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FONMIN VAN DER STOEL WEIGHS IN

REF: STATE 256611

1. FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL CALLED ME THIS MORNING (NOV. 21) TO GIVE ME HIS QTE FIRST REACTION UNQTE TO CAB ORDER PURSUANT TO SECTION 213 REQUIRING KLM SCHEDULE FILING.

2. VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT HE ASSUMES QTE NO IRREVOCABLE ACTION UNQTE WILL BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE US UNTIL AFTER HE HAS DISCUSSED THIS QTE DIFFICULT SITUATION UNQTE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 257884

3. VAN DER STOEL SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY DURING THE DECEMBER 10 NATO MINISTERIAL AT BRUSSELS UNLESS EARLIER MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED.

4. I RESPONDED BY ADVISING THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS WOULD BE THOROUGHLY REPORTED.

5. COMMENT: VAN DER STOEL'S OBVIOUS CONCERN AND REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH SECRETARY REFLECT THE GREAT SENSITIVITY WITH WHICH THE GON REGARDS THIS MATTER. (SEE SEPTTEL REPORTING TRANSPORTATION MINISTER'S CONVERSATION WITH DCM). THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW IS SHARED BY A SUBSTANTIAL SEGMENT OF THE DUTCH POLITY. WE ARE PLANNING MEDIA RELEASE TO PUT MATTER INTO A MORE DISPASSIONATE CONTEXT. THERE IS NO DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT UNTIL THE MATTER IS RESOLVED THE US WILL CATCH A LOT OF FLAK, ALBEIT UNDESERVED.

6. RECOMMENDATION: THAT SECRETARY SCHEDULE MEETING WITH VAN DER STOEL AND THAT WE CONFIRM VAN DER STOEL'S QTE ASSUMPTION UNQTE THAT NO QTE IRREVOCABLE ACTION UNQTE WILL BE UNDERTAKEN UNTIL SUCH MEETING TAKES PLACE. VAN DER STOEL HAS BEEN AN EXCELLENT FRIEND OF THE US--ENERGY AND NATO FOR EXAMPLE--AND WE WOULD BE ILL ADVISED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER WE DECIDE TO COME DOWN HARD ON KLM, NOT TO HEAR HIM OUT ON THIS MATTER WHICH IS OF SUCH NATIONAL CONCERN TO THE DUTCH.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: AN EARLY RESPONSE TO VAN DER STOEL'S REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH SECRETARY.

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